

Farm Della Pietrella,  
San Pancrazio,  
Commune of Bucine,  
Arezzo.

2 February 45.

STATEMENT OF:-

VALENTI Giulia, Female.  
Farm Della Pietrella, Aged 31 years.  
San Pancrazio,  
Bucine.

Who saith,

I am the widow of VALENTI Gino, aged 40 years, a farmer, and the mother of nine children. I have lived in SAN PANCRAZIO for the past twelve years.

About 0600 hours on the 29 June 44, I was working in the fields outside SAN PANCRAZIO when my attention was drawn to some motor vehicles entering the village. These trucks had large red cross signs painted on the side. A few minutes later I heard the sound of some shots in the village so I returned home to see my husband. Upon going through the village I saw him standing in the Piazza along with other men, being guarded by German soldiers.

My husband told me to go home and look after the children, which I did.

About 1300 hours from my house, I saw a large number of soldiers on foot coming from the direction of CIVITELLA. When they arrived they asked for food and water which I gave to them. One of these soldiers asked me the name of the village. He spoke in Italian and was wearing a black shirt, which gave me the impression that he was an Italian.

When these soldiers had partaken of food and drink, they told me that I must take my children away from the village. Together, with several other women, I went and took refuge in the woods. On my way, I remember seeing three soldiers wearing black masks, but I did not pay particular attention to their dress because I was afraid. I almost forgot to tell you that just before the women and children were ordered from the village, a German soldier arrived on a motor cycle. After he had spoken to another German, it was then that we were ordered from the village.

Later that day, I returned home and found several of the houses burning. As I entered my house, I found a German soldier there. I told him that I had come for some food for my children and as I left I saw him setting fire to other houses.

I remained in the woods until the arrival of the Allied troops, when upon returning to the village I found my own house destroyed by fire. I then came to live at the home of my husband's parents.

Some time during July 44, I went to the cellar of FERRANGELI in SAN PANCRAZIO, where I recognised a pair of boots as identical to those worn by my husband on the 29 June 44. I was not able to recognise the body because it was so badly burnt.

My husband was not a partisan and did nothing

wrong against the/....

/and did nothing

wrong against the Germans when they were here. To the best of my knowledge, there was no trial or court held in SAN PANCRAZIO on that day.

I have read over the above statement. It is true and correct. I herewith append my signature.

(Sgd) GIULIA VALENTI.

Statement written down in Italian and signature witnessed by Sgt SALZMANN, M., Interpreter, in the presence of Sgt Vickers, both of 78 Section, SIB, at SAN PANCRAZIO, on the 2nd. February 1945.

I certify that the above translation from Italian is true and correct and to the best of my ability.

M. SALZMANN, Sgt.